

# Montana Crime Reporting Newsletter

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The Montana Board of Crime Control's Technical Service Unit is pleased to bring back the Montana Crime Reporting Newsletter. This Newsletter serves as a source of information between the MBCC and all law enforcement agencies reporting crime data to us. We hope to provide useful information and answers to your data reporting issues. Your comments on this newsletter are encouraged!

## **MTIBR Standards**

MBCC would like to thank all of those who continually work hard to submit their agencies crime data to us. We would also like to direct you to the online version of our Montana Incident Based Reporting (MTIBR) Standards Handbook. It is available at:

<http://mbcc.mt.gov/Data/CrimeDataSubmissions/CrDataSub.asp>.

## **Law Enforcement Online (LEO)**

Kathy and Jimmy attended an overview training at the CJIS Division of the FBI. During this training, one thing that was impressed upon us is the expanded capabilities of the FBI's Law

Enforcement Online (LEO). LEO is an information sharing network for Local, State, and Federal law enforcement partners. If you are interested in getting a LEO account please contact Kathy or Jimmy. If you have a LEO account, but have not accessed it in while, the FBI invites you to check out its expanded capability.

## **Hate Crimes**

In the past, MBCC required that you submit hate crime data on paper forms, sent to us. Effective immediately, we no longer require that you send us the paper forms. We have the ability to extract this data from your the MTIBR data.

## **Help Us Help You**

A few weeks ago, we sent out an email requesting some feedback on canned reports that we can make available to you. Our response rate was very low. As a reminder, please contact us if you have **any** ideas for canned reports that would help serve your agency.

## Legislative News

During the 2007 Legislative Session, HB 781 was passed into law. HB 781 is:

*"AN ACT REQUIRING EACH LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY TO ADOPT A POLICY ON RACE-BASED TRAFFIC STOPS, INCLUDING THE COLLECTION OF DATA ON RACIAL PROFILING IN TRAFFIC STOPS; AMENDING SECTION 44-2-117, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE."*

One minority group specifically named in HB 781 are individuals of Middle Eastern descent. Currently we do not have a code for individuals of Middle Eastern descent for our MTIBR System.

MBCC has been informed that it does not need to make provisions to collect this data at this time. In summary, HB 781 does not change the way you report your MTIBR data to us.

If you have any questions regarding HB 781 please contact:

Bill Griffenberg @ DOJ/ITSD  
406-444-4531

Pam Bucy @ DOJ/AGO  
406-444-5790

Mike Tooley @ DOJ/MHP  
406-444-3916

*Source: Montana Legislative Branch  
House Bill No. 781*

*Accessed online at*

*<http://data.opi.mt.gov/bills/2007/billpdf/>*

## Stop Me If You Have Heard This One

### Excuse For Speeding

*A cop pulls a car over on the highway for speeding. When he asks for the driver's license, the driver argued, "Speeding??? But officer, I was only trying to keep a safe distance between my car and the car in back of me."*

Source: <http://www.ahajokes.com>

## Citation Arrest Types

The FBI has informed us that our 2006 Arrest counts are low. In my research, I found that we do not receive the Arrest Type S, Cited/Summoned from many agencies.

<http://mbcc.mt.gov/Data/CrimeDataSubmissions/mtibrstandardsabridged.pdf> (page 17)

Please enter this Arrest Type in your RMS, not just your Citation (Traffic) Module.

For example, when a minor receives a written Citation for a Minor in Possession Offense, enter it as an Arrest Type S, Cited/Summoned in your RMS.

Please contact us or your Vendor for additional assistance.

## Thank You

We'd like to thank all local law enforcement agencies that submitted their Jan.—June 2007 data. Your crime data will be included in the FBI Preliminary Semiannual Uniform Crime Report.

Remember to submit your data by the 7th of the following month to [mbccdata@mt.gov](mailto:mbccdata@mt.gov).

Your data is important to the MBCC and the state of Montana. It is used to guide policy development at a state and local level. Additionally, the Federal Department of Justice places an emphasis on crime reporting as a criteria for distributing federal funds.